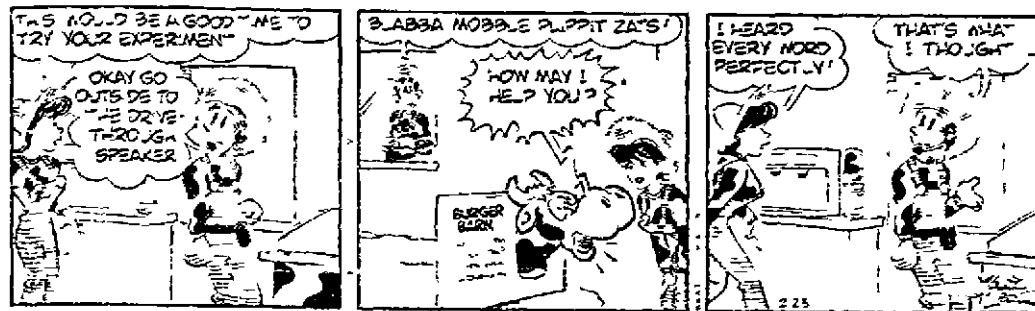
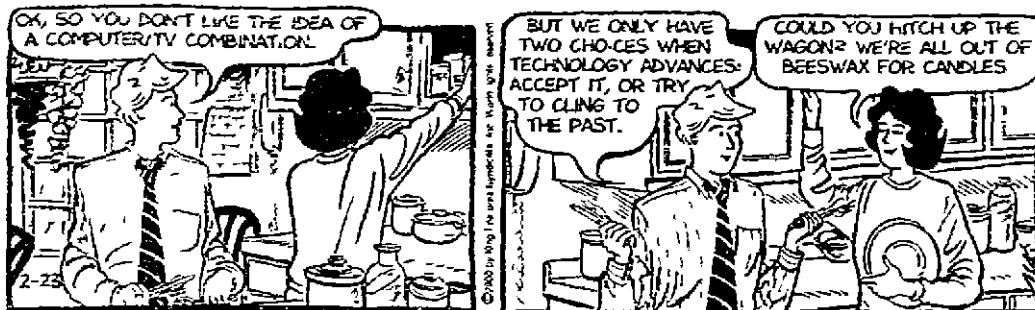


BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



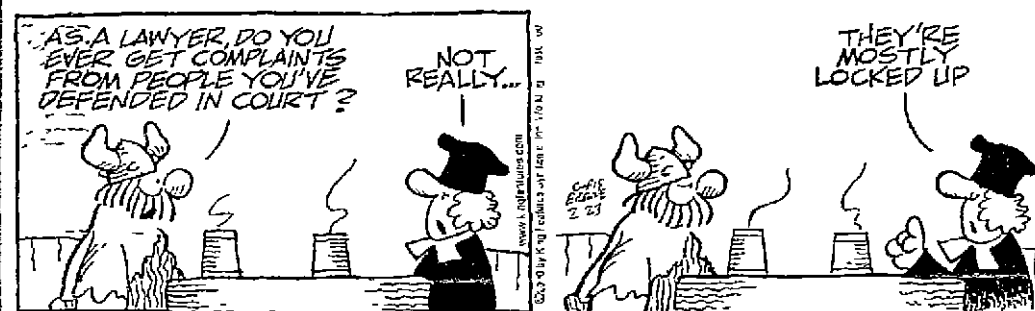
ANDY CAPP



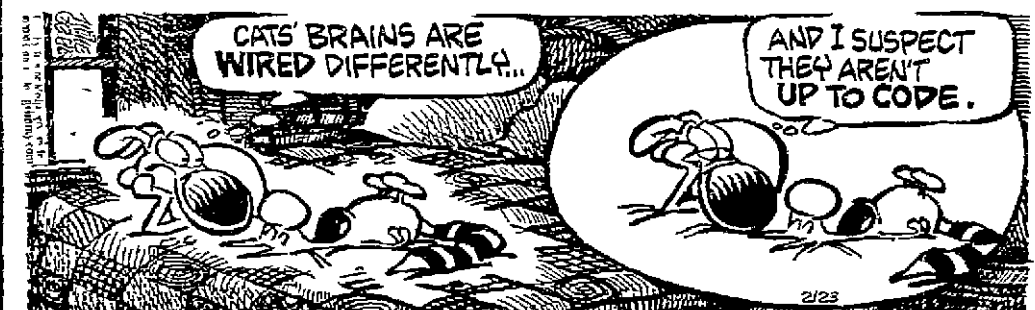
ROSE IS ROSE



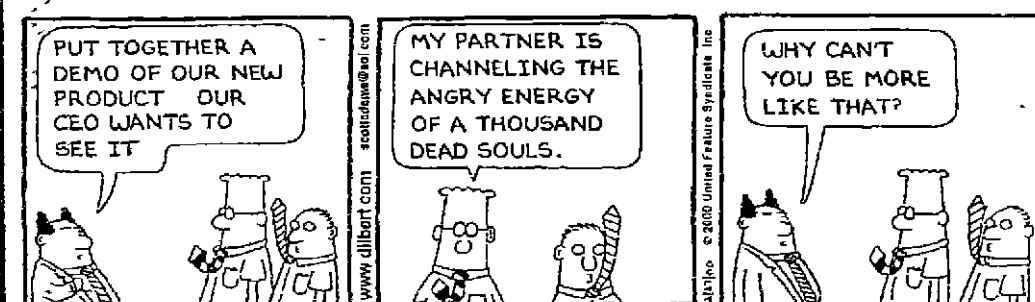
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



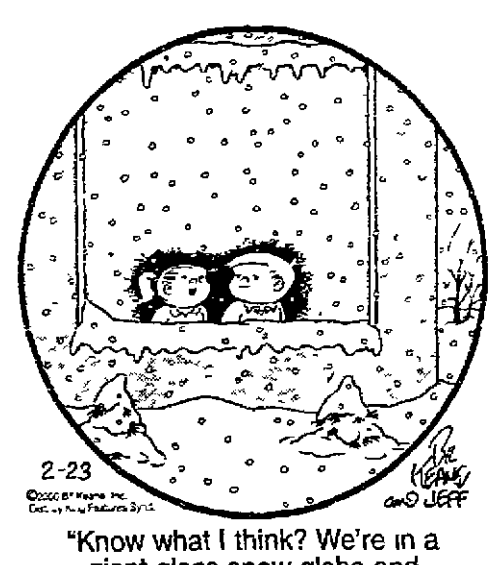
DILBERT



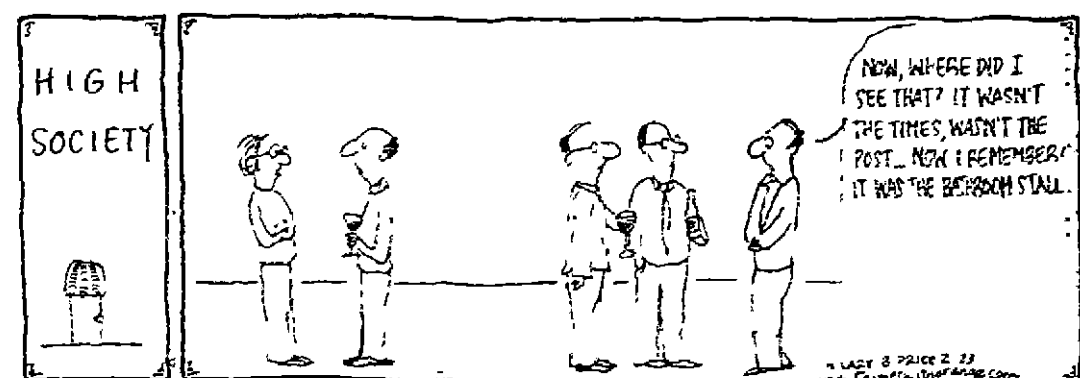
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor Peter Fonda is 60
Singer-musician Johnny Winter is 56
South African activist Allan Boesak is 55
Country-rock musician Rusty Young is 54
Actress Patricia Richardson is 49
Rock musician Brad Whitford (Aerosmith) is 48
Singer Howard Jones is 45
Rock musician Michael Wilton (Queensryche) is 38
Actress Kristin Davis is 35
Tennis player Helena Sukova is 35

I NEED HELP



What really happened to the Mars probe.

SCRABBLE

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G	L	R	B	S	A	E	
Y	A	A	W	E	T	G	4th Letter Bonus
E	A	Y	P	H	T	M	
R	I	G	G	H	N	A	2nd Letter Double

PAR SCORE 165-175
BY JUDD
FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN
DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OGSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 2/23/00 © 2000 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For solution, see Classified

WORD SLEUTH

ASSOCIATED WITH ROYALTY

S T Q N I G S E D A X U R O L
J G D A X S V S N P N K I F C
A X V S E D Q O O L J H E C
A X V H T G O R B P R N L J H
F H C D B Y E O I E X H V Y T
R U C P T P O L L M K I T G N
D E D R B Z X U I B W S G E W
U T U I A R R Q T V E N E O O
N O L N J N I G Y J I U F D R
C C A C Y X O W A K Q R L V C
M L A E R I P M E K U D P B T

Tuesday's unlisted clue: GRAPH

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: Ornamental Head Covering

Blue blood	Empire	Nobility	Realm
Court	Prince	Ruler	
Duchess	Majesty	Privilege	Throne
Duke	Monarch	Queen	

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, Feb. 24

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Use your natural charm to get you where you want to go.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Spend some time alone today. You've been working too hard lately.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might have bitten off more than you can chew right now.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A project may come to a standstill when you butt heads with someone else over how to proceed.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) This is a good time to purchase new computer and similar electronic equipment.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) A casual conversation has the potential to turn into something with more depth and meaning if you give it a chance.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't feel guilty or self-conscious about receiving attention from other people today.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you are having a hard time making up your mind, get a second opinion.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) It might be best to just set up shop and start charging money for all of the advice you give out.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Your career might be your main focus right now.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Experiencing something new is as easy as taking a new route home from work or visiting a new cafe.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) As the moon leaves the house of Libra, money issues weigh heavily on your mind.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

After East's lead-directing double, West had an easy diamond lead and South won his ace. Disappointed with the duplicated distribution in spades, South drew trumps and tried clubs. He cashed his king and finessed to dummy's jack for a quick one down. Since East was known to be long in diamonds, it was reasonable to expect the club finesse to work," offered South. West rated to have more clubs than East. Why should I have opted to try a complicated backward finesse in clubs?" "Simplicity is best," agreed the third player. "You shouldn't have followed the complicated route in clubs (leading the jack to force a cover and then finessing against West's 10). Instead, an even simpler plan would work. After drawing trumps and cashing three spade winners, concede a diamond trick to the defense. If East wins, he has no safe exit. If West wins, he must lead clubs. This gives you two shots in clubs instead of one. If he leads low, insert the nine from dummy, and if East has the 10 and plays it, you win your king and finesse against the queen." What could be more simple than forcing the opponents to do your work for you?

NORTH 85-30-A
K Q J
K Q 9 4
8 5
A J 9 4

WEST 86-53-2
3 2
10 9 4
10 8 7

EAST 7-4
6 5
K Q 8 7 2
Q 5 3

SOUTH A 10 9
A J 10 8 7
A 3
K 6 2

Vulnerable Both
Dealer North

The bidding:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥ Pass 4NT Pass
5♦ Dbl 6♥ All pass

Opening lead: Diamond 10

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

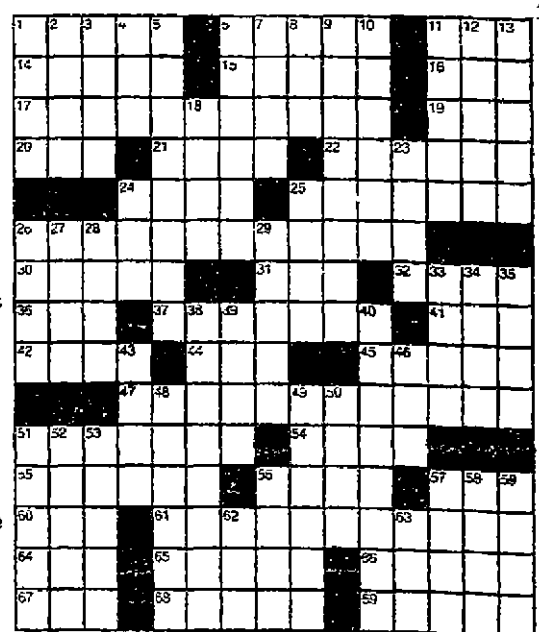
No. 0112

- ACROSS**
- Sign language communicator, maybe
 - Myanmar, once
 - Winter warmer-upper
 - Pisces' follower
 - Not even half-baked
 - Evidence of a royal turf?
 - "Wan of 'Star Wars'"
 - Harsh review
 - Pub stock
 - Wing-footed one
 - LAX guessmates
 - Handbooks
 - Birthday camping gear?
 - Stand for something
 - Classic card game
 - Times past
 - Dadaism founder
 - In general
 - Baseball bat material
 - Gambling game
 - Sink
 - Signal interference
 - Recreation for Gregonian monks?
 - Like a beautiful night sky
 - Kick back
 - Response to a knock, maybe
 - Tough
 - Montgomery sch
 - Nile slitherer
 - Pennies made in the 1990s?
 - Start of a Brewer's line score
 - Tale of the Trojan War
 - Eud Grace comic strip
 - Season opener?
 - How long it takes mountains to form
 - Loved ones

- DOWN**
- Letters on old Soviet rockets
 - Circle dance
 - Trash can, for one
 - Fell with a blade
 - Popular cigar
 - Slightest
 - "QB VII" author
 - Tin Tin
 - Antifreeze additive
 - What a stamp may indicate
 - Bouquet
 - Gibbersh
 - Watch word?
 - Work out
 - Subterfuge
 - Hamburg-to-Berlin dir.
 - Children's
 - Point on a graph
 - Like a no-hitter
 - Locker room shower?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

CELTIC FERN BICS
ALONE APPE ORAL
FANTASTIC VOYAGE
ENG BATCH LINED
NILE CDS
INCREDIBLE HULK
BLOOD ROAR NAE
AIRS CLOWN STIR
BUM SOON BARN
AMAZING STORIES
ELK ETAL
BASRA TALON MSG
IMPOSSIBLE DREAM
AMIE IDLE OHARA
SONS PEER NOTIN



Puzzle by Greg Shapers

- Powerful engine
- Reason for postponement
- Mgr's aide
- Tom Jones's "a Lady"
- Florida State athlete
- Aid's partner
- Like some digital pictures
- Fiend
- Klutz
- Actress Silverstone
- Annual Nile events
- Woodland critter
- Rogue
- "With Love"
- Good-sized
- Pulp novel nero
- "The King and I" role
- Flap
- "Has 1,001"
- "O Sole"
- Earlier than

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (\$5c per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7-ACROSS